

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 11501 131425Z

47

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 FMC-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 CG-00 OFA-01 DLOS-04

PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 /051 W

----- 122463

R 131253Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7877

INFO AMCONSUL MONTREAL

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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FM AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: EWWT, EG

SUBJECT: ALEXSHIP DISPUTE WITH MARITIME MINISTRY

REF: CAIRO 11246 (NOTAL)

1. DESPITE APPARENT BREAKTHROUGH (REFTEL) IN ALEXSHIP'S RUNNING DISPUTE WITH MINISTRY OF MARITIME TRANSPORT'S SHIPPING MONOPOLY (MARTRANS), ALEXSHIP'S PRESIDENT MAHMOUD ISMAIL IS AGAIN THREATENING MARTRANS' MANAGING DIRECTOR WITH FURTHER COURT ACTION. ISMAIL HAS JUST SENT CONGEN COPY OF "WARNING" TO MARTRANS FROM ALEXSHIP'S LAWYER CITING THREE SPECIFIC INSTANCES WHERE MARTRANS AGENTS ABROAD HAVE INTERFERED TO DENY CARGOES TO ALEXSHIP AND INSTEAD UTILIZED FOREIGN FLAG VESSELS, IN DIRECT CONTRADICTION OF AUGUST 6 COURT FINDINGS.

A. IN SEPTEMBER, THE ALEXSHIP VESSEL "ELANOUD", A ROLL-ON/ROLL-OFF CAR FERRY, CALLED AT GDANSK, POLAND, WHERE CARS ORDERED FOR EGYPT WERE AWAITING TRANSPORTATION. DESPITE ALEXSHIP OFFER TO SHIP AT \$100 PER VEHICLE LESS

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PAGE 02 CAIRO 11501 131425Z

THAN OTHERS CHARGED (VESSEL WAS ON DELIVERY TRIP FROM

FINLAND), MARTRANS REFUSED CARGO TO ALEXSHIP AND USED FOREIGN VESSELS.

B. AT ABOUT SAME TIME, ALEXSHIP VESSEL "EL KAHERA", ALSO ON DELIVERY VOYAGE, WAS REFUSED WAITING CARGOES IN "NORWEGIAN AND EUROPEAN PORTS" BECAUSE OF MARTRANS INTERFERENCE.

C. THIRD VESSEL, SS KUWAIT, STAYED AT MONTREAL FROM SEPT 13 UNTIL RECENTLY AND FINALLY SAILED EMPTY BECAUSE MARTRANS AGENT "SHENKER" REFUSED WAITING CARGOES FOR EGYPT TO ALEXSHIP WHILE CONTRACTING FOR EXPORT IN FOREIGN SHIPS.

2. ALEXSHIP WARNING TO MARTRANS, TO BE "OFFICIALLY DELIVERED BY THE PROCESS SERVER OF THE ALEXANDRIA COURT" ON NOV 7, ALSO NOTED THAT MARTRANS CIRCULAR LETTER TO WORLD SHIPPING TRADE WARNING SHIPPERS AND AGENTS AGAINST USING ALEXSHIP PRIOR TO ADMINISTRATIVE COURT DECISION HAD BEEN "REISSUED" AFTER ALEXSHIP WON COURT BATTLE. MARTRANS DIRECTOR HAD ALSO GIVEN INTERVIEW TO MIDDLE EAST NEWS AGENCY CLAIMING CONTINUED MONOPOLY, "CONTRARY TO LAW NO 65/1974 (WHICH ESTABLISHED ALEXSHIP) AND COURT'S DECISION WHICH RULED OTHERWISE."

3. CALLING MARTRANS DIRECTOR'S ACTIONS "SABOTAGE", ALEXSHIP'S LAWYER WARNED THAT IF IN ONE WEEK'S TIME MARTRANS CONTINUED TO DEFY COURT ORDERS "ALEXSHIP WILL INFORM RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITIES IN EGYPT OF THIS HARRASSMENT AND FILE CASE IN COURT AGAINST MARTRANS."

4. COMMENT: PRESENT THREAT OF RENEWED COURT ACTION IS Milder THAN PREVIOUS THREAT TO SEEK JAILING OF MARITIME TRANSPORT MINISTER AND MARTRANS DIRECTOR (REFTEL). LETTER IS PROBABLY DESIGNED PRIMARILY TO ESTABLISH BASIS FOR SUIT FOR DAMAGES DUE MARTRANS "HARRASSMENT" THAT ISMAIL WAS TALKING ABOUT LAST SUMMER (CAIRO 5720). SIGNED CHASE. EILTS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 NOV 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
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Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750395-0790
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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06 JUL 2006

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